AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of transporting small computer system interface (SCSI) data packets over a network to a destination (mSCSI), the method including the steps of

encapsulating a SCSI data packet within a[n] Multi Protocol Label Switching (MPLS) header structure, said structure including a MPLS label,

assigning the data packet to a forward equivalence class; and

transporting the labelled data packet, according to ~~the~~ an established MPLS protocol, to its destination.

2. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 including the step of establishing a Label Switched Path for [[the]] an mSCSI PDU using an MPLS routing protocol prior to assigning the mSCSI PDU to a forward equivalence class.

3. (Currently amended) A method of transporting small computer system interface (SCSI) data packets over a network to a destination (mSCSI), the method including the steps of

encapsulating a SCSI data packet within a[n] Multi Protocol Label Switching (MPLS) header structure, forming an mSCSI protocol data unit (mSCSI PDU);

assigning the mSCSI PDU to a forward equivalence class;

labelling the mSCSI PDU according to ~~the~~ an established MPLS

protocol; and

transporting the labelled data packet, according to the MPLS protocol, to its destination.

4. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 3 including the step of establishing a Label Switched Path for the mSCSI PDU using an MPLS routing protocol prior to assigning the mSCSI PDU to a forward equivalence class.

5. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 4 wherein the Label Switched Path specifies the routing that is to be imposed on the data packets when carried on the MPLS network.

6. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 4 wherein routing protocol for the MPLS network is selected from the group including constraint-based Label Distribution Protocol (CR-LDP) and Resource Reservation Protocol-traffic extension (RSVP-TE).

7. (Currently amended) A method of transporting Internet Small Computer System Interface (iSCSI) protocol data units over a network to a destination, the method including the steps of:

assigning an iSCSI protocol data unit to a forward equivalence class;

labelling the iSCSI protocol data unit according to [[the]] an established Multi Protocol Label Switching (MPLS) protocol; and

transporting the labelled iSCSI protocol data unit on an MPLS network core.

8. (Currently amended) A method of transporting Internet Small Computer System Interface (iSCSI) protocol data units (~~iSCSI~~ PDUs) over a[n] Multi Protocol Label Switching (MPLS) network including the steps of:

establishing a label switched path for an iSCSI PDU using an MPLS routing protocol;

assigning the iSCSI PDU to a particular forward equivalence class;

labelling the iSCSI PDU with an MPLS label to form [a] an MPLS data packet; and

transporting the labelled data packet according to ~~the~~ an established MPLS protocol.

9. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 8 wherein the Label Switched Path specifies the routing that is to be imposed on the data packets when carried on the MPLS network.

10. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 8 wherein the MPLS routing protocol is constraint-based Label Distribution Protocol (CR-LDP), or Resource Reservation Protocol-traffic extension (RSVP-TE).~~or similar~~.

11. (Currently amended) A network including plural coupled computer arrangements, the network including ~~a~~ computer readable data ~~program~~ for causing the network to operate in accordance with the method as claimed in claim 1.

12. (Currently amended) A network including plural coupled computer arrangements, the network including ~~a~~ computer readable data ~~program~~ for causing the network to operate in accordance with the method as claimed in claim 7.

13. (Currently amended) A network including plural coupled computer arrangements, the network including ~~a~~ computer readable data ~~program~~ for causing the network to operate in accordance with the method as claimed in claim 8.

14. (Original) One or more host computers configured to carry out the method as claimed in claim 7.

15. (Original) One or more host computers configured to carry out the method as claimed in claim 8.

16. (Original) One or more host computers configured to carry out the method as claimed in claim 1.

17. (Previously presented) A memory device or storage medium including computer readable data in the form of a program for causing a network to be operated in accordance with the method of claim 1.

18. (Previously presented) A memory device or storage medium including computer readable data in the form of a program for causing a network to be operated in accordance with the method of claim 7.

19. (Previously presented) A memory device or storage medium including computer readable data in the form of a program for causing a network to be operated in accordance with the method of claim 8.